

# Craftsmen use tools from past to ply their trade

## No shortcuts for this team

*3 July 1984 - Tues*

**By Lillie Robertson**  
Deseret News staff writer

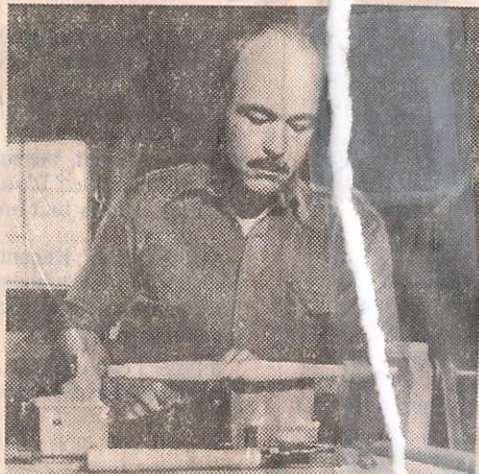
The past plays an enormous part in the present lives and futures of four very talented Salt Lakers.

To walk into their workshop is like stepping back in time. There's no assembly line, no hum or whine of today's modern power tools. And that's the way Stephen A. Shepherd, Fred T. Heath, John T. Kramer and L. D. Peterson like it.

All are craftsmen, plying their trade with the same pride and in the same traditional manner as did their forefathers. They want no part of today's modern shortcuts. While each has his own special field of expertise, each is capable and skilled in a number of crafts.

These young men are preservers of the past, restoring and refinishing historical pieces, priceless antiques, heirlooms and artifacts using tools like those with which the items were originally made. Finishes are made fresh (from scratch), based on their collection of over 15,000 antique recipes.

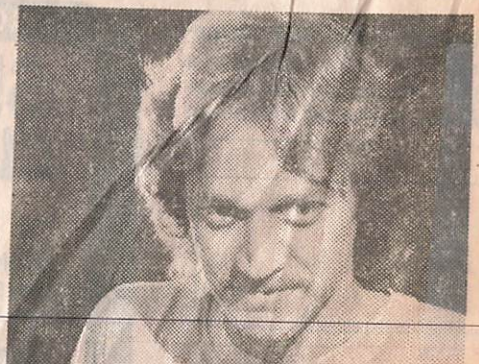
Combined, the four have literally thousands of old tools they have collected over



Stephen A. Shepherd turns grand wheel, designed by him and made by MTS. It is a power system for their 19th Century tools.

pieces, musical instruments, arches and architraves, pedestals, columns, caning, glass work, guns and wagons.

Examples of their work can be seen at the new LDS Museum of Church History & Art. They restored the side table and sewing box





the years from various sources. Tools that have needed but have been unable to acquire, they have made, some of which are pictured here, including a jigsaw and turning lathe, both treadle-operated; and a grand wheel, which will be used to "power" other tools, just as it was traditionally used in the past. These are primarily made from combinations of woods, and are representative of those available prior to the industrial revolution.

Among their treasures are tenon and mortise machines with an 1879 patent date, and a beading plane they feel belonged to Truman O. Angell because it bears the initials T.O.A.

Using these nineteenth century tools, the Salt Lakers do traditional cabinetry, and specialize in fine joinery and fancy painted finishes. They can (and have) built everything from tables, chests, beds, chairs, spinning wheels, navigational and musical instruments to fireplace mantels, fancy

**John T. Kramer operates treadle-powered turning lathe, constructed from maple, pine and oak.**

mouldings, leather garments, etc., etc. (They also have their own originally-designed lines of furniture — for lodges, homes, businesses.)

They have installed interiors of banks, offices, stores, churches, museums, restaurants, and homes. And they pride themselves in being able to work with just about any material you can name. The craftsmen restore all types of furniture, metal works, art

Young's revolving desk, which required removal of nine coats of paint and varnish; reassembled and stabilized an old rocker that once belonged to Joseph Smith.

According to Kramer, they reconstructed over 60 percent of the framework (preserving over 90 percent of the original finish on existing pieces) around the 1863 Joseph Smith painting done by Daniel Weggland in oil tempera on dry plaster over adobe. This was taken from the Bountiful Tabernacle.

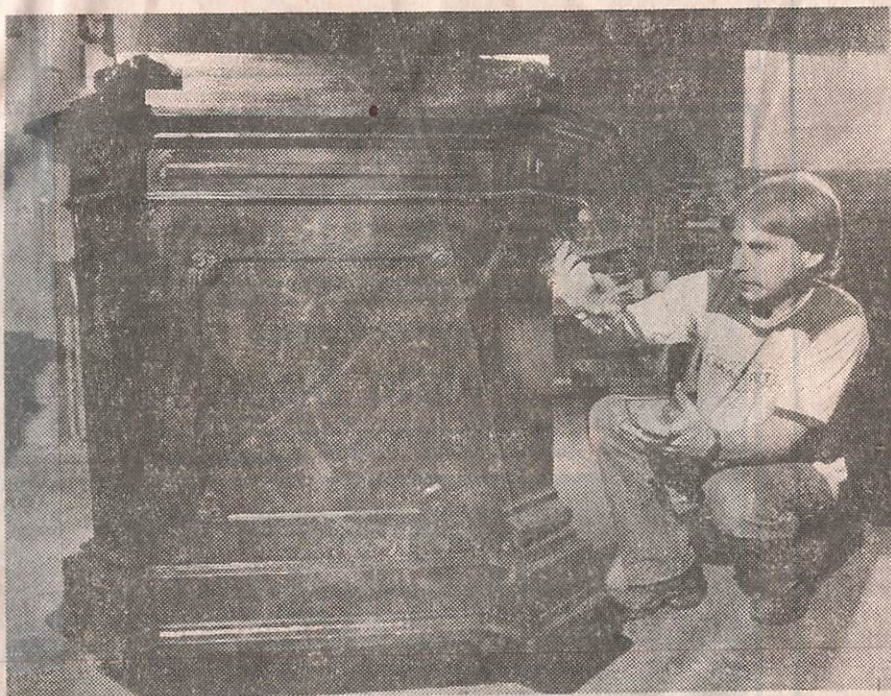
Using block and tackle, plus the help of many people, they installed two large stained glass windows (from the Logan Temple) as a decorative skylight in the "Masterworks" gallery — over one ton of wood, glass, and steel. Restoration of a pedestal, painted to look like variegated green marble was done by Peterson. Four matching pedestal and two double benches, made in the shop, also were painted by him.

The arches in the museum were restored by the quartet of artisans, too, and the the Empire gondola chairs sold in the gift shop are examples of their work (made exclusively for the museum). The design for this chair

See **TOOLS** on C-8

**Fred T. Heath, a member of the Moses Trader Shepherd's Cabinet Shop team, uses a beading plane that bears Truman O. Angell's initials.**

PHOTOGRAPHY/ JACK MONSON



**L.D. Peterson restores finish on this pedestal, which has been grained to look like variegated green marble.**



**Concrete lions were restored for LDS Museum of Church History and Art. Lions decorated the Salt Lake Tabernacle.**



# 'Retirement' hasn't stopped Walter

**By Howard Pearson**  
Deseret News television editor

Walter Cronkite might have retired from the anchor spot of CBS News, but recently he has been appearing on the network almost as regularly as he did before, and he will take his place as a special CBS correspondent for the political convention.

This means he will be on TV July 16 through 19 for the Democratic convention in San Francisco and Aug. 20 through 23 for the Republican convention in Dallas.

Dan Rather, who succeeded Cronkite as the anchorman on CBS News, will anchor his first national political conclave and will spearhead CBS News' comprehensive coverage. Dan feels that at a time like this he is happy to have Cronkite filling in as a special correspondent "because he has a lot of experience that could permit our network to beat the others," Rather said.

Cronkite has served as a special correspondent on assignment for CBS since March 6, 1981, when he stepped down from anchoring evening news. He first covered political conventions in 1952, so he is in his 32nd year of covering primaries, conventions, elections and inaugurations.

But, as I pointed out earlier, his work did not end with his "retirement" three years ago. Last month, he conducted an exclusive interview for the CBS Morning News with President Reagan. He also anchored the CBS Reports program, "D-Day and Eisenhower" which was a report from Normandy, where the Allies landed during World War II.

Now he is preparing for another CBS Reports.





This time, it is titled "The Legacy of Harry S. Truman." It will be telecast July 18 on Ch. 5, probably after the Democratic National Convention. The Cronkite show probably will start about 9 p.m., but everything depends on the time of the convention.

Part of the show has been filmed in front of the Truman home in Independence, Mo. Cronkite will discuss how the Truman presidency changed the world because of the challenging problems he faced and the way he made his decisions. One decision was to drop the atomic bomb, which is still being debated throughout the world. Another was the decision to fire General Douglas MacArthur. This was another that is still being debated today. Cronkite says he believes Truman is just coming into his own and his greatness will one day be recognized.

Cronkite, once voted in surveys as the most trusted man in America, continues to draw the attention and the ratings. He also plans more specials like the CBS Reports. Just last week, he was on an Entertainment Tonight Show, a syndicated program, which was carried in Salt Lake on Ch. 4, an ABC affiliate.

He admits he has been urged to run for the Senate, but says he is content to be doing what he is doing, a retirement that isn't truly a retirement.

● **DUPLICATES:** Two series of shows with the same title are scheduled this fall. The title is **Partners In Crime** and PBS has one and NBC the other. As far as could be determined at the recent junkets in Hollywood, NBC was not conscious of the duplication and PBS said it had heard, but no move has been made to change one or the other.

The PBS series will consist of 10 hour-long episodes, which will follow the adventures of Tommy and Tuppence, known as Mr. and Mrs. Berseford. They are introduced in *Secret Adversary*, which Agatha Christie wrote soon after World War I. Tommy and Tuppence continue their adventures in *Partners in Crime* for 10 episodes.

The NBC *Partners in Crime* stars Lynda Carter and Lonnie Anderson. Both portray women who



Walter Cronkite poses outside Harry S Truman's home in Independence, Mo. Cronkite will narrate a "CBS Reports" special on "The Legacy of Harry S Truman" on July 18.

have been married to the same man and when he died he left his detective agency to them and they decide to run it jointly. They thus become partners in the criminal investigation business. The story is told in a tongue-in-cheek manner.

I don't know which side will win, but I think the PBS one would because the Agatha Christie story seems to have precedence.

● **GOOD LINEUP:** KBYU (Ch. 11) has arranged a lineup of good shows this week. Some are repeats, but others will be presented for the first time.

In the latter category will be *A Walk Through the 20th Century* Wednesday at 8 p.m. Bill Moyers' program takes a look at the depression by showing some U.S. government-produced films that take a look at the alphabet agencies created to help people in need.

Also on Wednesday, the National Geographic special will deal with sharks. The program shows the fearsome creatures, but demonstrates that they are

not as fearsome as they look. This program will be telecast at 7 p.m.

A program that will look back at part of the American past that was shameful is scheduled on Wednesday. This is titled *There Was Always Sun Shining Someplace*. From the 1880s until the 1940s, baseball was segregated. Historic footage, featuring interviews with five players, plus some footage from the '30s and '40s that has not been shown before will be on the program. This is scheduled at 9 p.m.

*Our Town*, the play by Thornton Wilder, has a showing Friday, July 13, at 7 p.m. This is the movie made in 1940 with Martha Scott, William Holden and Thomas Mitchell in the cast.

*Making Of A Continent*, a fascinating series about floods, earthquakes and volcano blasts, is scheduled to begin Saturday, July 14, at 9 p.m. This focuses on Utah's Zion and Bryce Canyons, as well as Monument Valley. It's a series worth pursuing.